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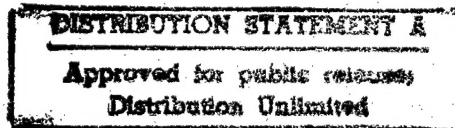
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8 September 1982

LATIN AMERICA REPORT

No. 2568

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CALS IMPOSES 10 PERCENT CUT IN ELECTROBRAS BUDGET FOR 1982

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 27 Jul 82 p 16

[Text] Brasilia (O GLOBO)--Budget allocations to the electric power sector this year will be reduced 10 percent from the initially approved ceiling of 437 billion cruzeiros, in accordance with a decision made yesterday by Minister of Mines and Energy Cesar Cals, during a meeting with Gen Vosta Cavalcanti, president of ELETROBRAS [Brazilian Electric Power Companies, Inc]. The Tucurui hydroelectric plant will suffer most from the budget cut, but only Itaipu and the nuclear program will not be affected by the reduction in investments.

General Cavalcanti said he was informed of the government's decision, but feels the cut is not a punishment for the budget overruns in the companies which he administers.

"We did not even manage to get our budget, so how can you talk about overruns?" he said.

He said that Itaipu was spared the budget cuts because "it is a binational firm, the result of an international treaty, and construction is almost completed."

Explanation

The generation of less funds than anticipated, as a result of a contraction in the market for electric power, and the government's decision not to inject more foreign funding were the two basic reasons why Minister Cals imposed the 10-percent budget cut. According to Dario Gomes, his chief of office, who took part in the meeting with General Cavalcanti, "if construction schedules are maintained, certainly the financial time tables will have to be revised."

Because of the shortage of funds, however, Minister Cals decided on the cut, even though this will mean delaying projects that have been given the highest priority up to now, such as Tucurui and the Itaipu power lines, which will not be in place when the plant goes into operation.

According to Gomes, the first [turbines] at Itaipu will go into operation in March 1983 on a test basis and will wait for completion of the transmission system, which should be a "very small" delay.

Col Raul Garcia Liano, president of ELETRONORTE [Northern Electric Power Plants], was called yesterday afternoon to the Ministry of Mines and Energy to be advised of the cut. He said the directive is to pay off the 30 billion-cruzeiro debt to entrepreneur Camargo Correa and proceed with construction using the available resources.

The Tucuruí budget for this year is 152 billion cruzeiros, 88 million of which has already been spent. If the program were cut by 10 percent, it would only leave 49 billion for investments this year, which is not enough to complete construction on the reservoir so it could be filled by July 1983. It would be delayed by at least a year; because of the hydrological conditions in the region, the reservoir could only be filled in the same period in the following year.

Disagreement

Col Raul Garcia Liano said that the delay at Tucuruí will certainly force ELETRONORTE to reactivate its diesel and fuel oil power plants to meet its commitments to ALCOA, which is locating in Sao Luis (Maranhao) and to ALBRAS and ALUNORTE [Brazilian Aluminum Corporation, Inc and Northern Aluminum Company], near Belem. All these projects were counting on the energy that was to be generated by Tucuruí, starting in December 1983.

According to Dario Gomes, however, it will not be necessary to reactivate the electric plants fueled with petroleum derivatives because the region could be supplied with energy from the CHESF [Hydroelectric Company of Sao Francisco] system, using the transmission line which is being constructed between Presidente Dutra (Maranhao) and Sao Luis, an extension of about 400 kilometers. The line is already completed from Presidente Dutra to Belem, insuring Belem's power supply. According to Gomes, the CHESF system has enough power to supply this market.

6362

CSO: 3001/213

ALLOCATIONS TO INCREASE OIL PRODUCTION GUARANTEED

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 30 Jul 82 p 20

[Article by Fernando Martins]

[Text] Brasilia--The government will not cut funds to increase domestic oil production, according to a source in the Office of the President of the Republic. The informant explained that the goals planned for the sector and costed out by the CPPG (Multiannual Consolidation of Government Programs) will be implemented.

According to the CPPG, the goal is 29 million cubic meters in 1985. Domestic production of oil and gas should increase from the 220,000 barrels per day achieved in 1981 to 500,000 barrels per day in 1985. The Campos Basin, in Rio de Janeiro State, will account for 69 percent of domestic production in 1985.

To increase production from 1982 to 1985, PETROBRAS [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] will invest 2,510,300,000,000 of the 3,000,684,000,000 cruzeiros destined for overall expenditures until 1985. Over 90 percent of these funds will come from the operating profits of the group, according to the CPPG estimate.

Planning

Investments in development of production from 1982 to 1985 will be 1,179,300,000,000 cruzeiros, with 36 percent going for developmental drilling, 28 percent for operations in the Campos Basin and 12 percent for construction of offshore oil platforms.

PETROBRAS will spend 918 billion cruzeiros on petroleum prospecting from 1982 to 1985; 66.7 percent for exploratory drilling, 13.4 percent for construction of platforms, 12.8 percent for exploratory studies and 7.1 percent in other applications.

Investments in the refining industry from 1982 to 1985 will total 136.9 billion cruzeiros. Another 22 billion cruzeiros will remain to be used after 1985, since total expenditures are estimated at 337.7 billion cruzeiros. [Figures as published].

According to the CPPG, investments in transport ships for petroleum and derivatives will amount to 124,8 billion cruzeiros from 1982 to 1985, including 27 billion in 1982, with 21.5 billion cruzeiros (14 percent [of total planned investments]) remaining to be spent after 1985. [Figures as published.] Notable among these investments is construction of 36 tankers, 34 of these in national shipyards, totalling 1,127,030 dwt.

Oil shale investments are estimated at 211.2 billion cruzeiros for the industrial plant at Sao Mateus do Sul (Parana). This plant will have the capacity to process 4,936 cubic meters of shale oil [per day], with a daily production of 404 cubic meters of naphtha and 3,922 cubic meters of fuel oil with a low sulfur content.

Major PETROBRAS Investments (in million 1982 cruzeiros)

Discriminação (1)	1982	1983	1984	1985	1982/85
Desenvolvimento da Produção (2)	339 008	314 737	271 952	253 695	1 179 392
Obras na Bacia de Campos	212 625	96 886	21 997	—	331 508
Obras nas demais Bacias Marítimas	8 033	22 292	7 428	504	38 257
Sondagem de Desenvolvimento	55 250	98 689	135 390	135 045	424 374
Construção de Plataformas Marítimas (desenvolvimento)	12 045	35 506	42 076	52 345	141 972
Demais Aplicações em Desenvolvimento da Produção	51 055	61 364	65 061	65 801	243 281
Exploração de Petróleo (3)	234 001	101 877	212 920	279 200	917 998
Investigação Exploratória	24 141	27 538	31 393	34 564	117 636
Sondagem Exploratória	112 055	125 199	155 116	220 295	612 665
Construção de Plataformas Marítimas (exploração)	91 272	29 322	2 070	—	122 664
Demais Aplicações em Exploração	6 533	9 818	24 341	24 341	65 033
Modificações no Parque do Refino (4)	24 728	53 734	43 940	14 509	136 911
Transporte — Construção de Navios (5)	29 070	30 962	40 855	25 980	126 867
Usina de São Mateus do Sul - Xisto (6)	2 374	7 223	18 482	121 102	149 181
Total	629 181	598 533	588 149	694 486	2 510 349

Key:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Description | 3. Petroleum Exploration |
| 2. Development of Production | Exploratory research |
| Campos Basin operations | Exploratory drilling |
| Operations in other offshore basins | Construction of offshore platforms (exploratory) |
| Developmental drilling | Other applications in exploration |
| Construction of offshore platforms (developmental) | 4. Improvements in Refineries |
| Other applications in production development | 5. Transport--Construction of ships |
| | 6. Shale Oil Plant at Sao Mateus do Sul |

Source: PETROBRAS

BRIEFS

ARGENTINE ENVOYS IN HAVANA--[Begin recording] We have come to express our heartfelt gratitude for the attitude of the people and government of Cuba regarding its solidarity [with Argentina]. We end our tour here. I also want to tell you that we have come to talk with Cuban authorities. We spoke this morning with the foreign minister, the vice foreign minister and officials of the Foreign Ministry, regarding the initiative presented by Mexico and co-sponsored by 20 countries of Latin America that the Malvinas issue be included in the next session of the UN General Assembly. We also discussed topics concerning the steps which will be taken by Latin Americans in the United Nations. [End recording] Thus expressed Argentine envoy (Guillermo de La Plaza) in a press conference held in Havana today. (De La Plaza) and (Oscar Torres Avalos), another Argentine envoy, gave local and foreign journalists accredited to Cuba a detailed account of their tour through various Latin American countries which ended in Cuba today. Regarding the support of the Nonaligned Movement for Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands, diplomat (Torres Avalos) said: [Begin Torres Avalos recording] We have exchanged notes with Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca and officials of the Foreign Ministry regarding the position of the Nonaligned Movement. There was a meeting held recently attended by former Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez, who announced publicly Argentine policy and position regarding the nonaligned stand and specifically regarding the Malvinas Islands. Firmly, the support given to Argentina by the Nonaligned Movement has been invaluable. We are going to continue to work within the Nonaligned Movement with an attitude of amplifying the issues because of our desire that our position be better understood, always keeping in mind that our struggle to recover the Malvinas islands is centered within the framework of an anticolonialist struggle. [End recording] [Text] [FL240130 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Aug 82]

CSO: 3010/2189

ENVOY ADDRESSES UN DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE

PY202335 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2155 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Text] United Nations, 19 Aug (TELAM)--The Argentine ambassador to the United Nations, Carlos Muniz, stated this afternoon before the UN Committee on Decolonization that the Malvinas Islands issue should be channeled toward a just and lasting solution. He noted, however, that this will never be achieved if some continue to persist on imposing the will of a colonialist power which intends to arbitrarily determine what is legal and what is not through the support of its military might.

"It is necessary to understand," Muniz said, "that the negotiations that could be held in the future under the aegis of the United Nations will have to result in the recognition of [Argentine] sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands, which was already recognized and reaffirmed once again recently by the Bureau for Coordination of the Nonaligned Movement."

Muniz made these remarks before the above UN committee which today discussed the status of the islands disputed by Argentina and Great Britain in the South Atlantic.

Muniz recounted the historical background of the conflict over the islands and all UN resolutions which were favorable to the Argentine position.

The Argentine diplomat referred to reports published by British newspapers themselves and by other sources pointing to how uncertain the British rights were in contrast to the sound Argentine claims, "reports which the British Government hastened to conceal."

Muniz regarded the British position as contemptuous of the prevailing opinion in the international community which advocated the termination of the colonialist regime in the islands. Muniz also criticized the British contention that its armed action was designed to exercise its legitimate right to defense. Rather, he said, it is the anticolonial struggle which should be considered as an exercise of the right to legitimate defense.

The Argentine ambassador drew a parallel between a population and a people and concluded that the Malvinas inhabitants are the former, not the latter. Discussing whether the principle of self-determination was applicable to

the islanders, Muniz reaffirmed the Argentine respect for that principle as long as it is applied to a given situation and then emphasized that Argentina has always taken into account the interests of the islanders.

The United Kingdom, he said, "has time and again overlooked the right to self-determination and has proceeded to rule its colonies without consultations, appeals or considerations of any nature toward the desires of their inhabitants."

He also mentioned the many services rendered by Argentina to the islanders over the years and the fact that the Argentine occupation of the islands took place without causing the slightest harm to the islanders, without causing any dead or wounded despite the casualties, both dead and wounded, that occurred among the Argentine troops.

He also mentioned the second class citizen status given to the islanders by the United Kingdom; the mass abduction of the inhabitants of Diego Garcia Island by the United Kingdom in order to allow the United States to establish a military base there, and also the illegal exclusion zones established by the United Kingdom.

After stating that the British position on the islands is marked by its arrogant narrowmindedness and obstructionism, intransigence and arbitrariness, he reiterated that a cessation of hostilities will be achieved only when the United Kingdom ends its naval-air blockade and its economic sanctions... and when it withdraws its military forces from the islands and its naval task force and nuclear submarines from the region.

He also noted the brazenly aggressive British attitude which was best exemplified by the raising of the pirate flag from the nuclear submarine which sank the Argentine cruiser General Belgrano outside the hostility zone established by the British Government.

"Our intention is quite clear," Muniz said. "We want to negotiate the sovereignty issue at the United Nations. Yet the intention of the British Government, which emphatically refuses to negotiate with Argentina, is not clear."

Muniz emphasized the solidarity of 20 Latin American countries which have requested that the Malvinas issue be discussed at the forthcoming UN General Assembly.

Following the example set in this morning's session by the Venezuelan delegate, Muniz also criticized a work document on the Malvinas issue prepared by the secretariat of the UN Committee on Decolonization and cited remarks and reference documents which make the document appear as neither balanced nor measured but incorrect and confusing.

"I trust," Muniz said, "that justice will ultimately prevail."

CSO: 3010/2189

BRIEFS

ELECTORAL LAW REJECTED--The Revolutionary Front of the Left [FRI] has categorically rejected the electoral law of 1965 which has again been put into force. The party's top leader Oscar Zamora Medinacelli has stated that its rules are fraudulent. The party leader, interviewed by Radio Panamericana, then asserted that General Vildoso's government intends to prolong the military regime which has ruled Bolivia since 1980 by repealing the electoral law of the same year. Zamora Medinacelli said that the popular forces of the country wish a change of government in order to bring about democratic participation which would lead to freedom in all fields and the recovery of the credibility of the country, both at home and abroad. He said that the government is only preparing fraud by bringing the 1965 electoral law back into force, with the intention of justifying a future coup d'etat. The FRI leader also referred to the attitude of Hernan Siles Zuazo, leader of Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP], saying that he is shrinking from the responsibility of coming back to the country to assume the UDP leadership. Zamora Medinacelli concluded by stating that neither the FRI nor the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party will attend the political dialogue initiated by the government through the interior minister, since the repeal of the 1980 electoral law is an outrage against the resumption of the democratic process. [Text] [PY201545 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Aug 82]

COUP WARNING--The Bolivian Revolutionary Movement [Movimiento de la Revolucion Boliviana], which supported the candidacy of Luis Adolfo Siles Salinas in the 1980 elections and won fifth place, has released a communique containing its points of view regarding the decisions made by the government in search of solutions to the crisis of the country. In reply to the government appeal, which the Bolivian Revolutionary Movement calls sectarian, untimely and dictatorial, the party has decided to abstain from the 1983 electoral process. It explains that the abstention is due to its political and ideological position of not participating in an electoral fraud, particularly when the will of the people and the sacrifice through which the working class conquered civil liberties are being countered. The communique also says that the officialist candidate was the first to have a meeting with the government and use the criterion of choosing the lesser among evils. It also warns the people, political parties and labor organizations that a reactionary coup is drawing near. [Text] [PY201557 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Aug 82]

ARMED FORCES ON STONE DEAL--La Paz, 20 Aug (AFP)--The headquarters of the armed forces commander in chief has officially denied former President Luis Garcia Meza's contention that he had consulted with commanders of military units before entering into a contract for the exploitation of the La Gaiba precious stones, it was reported here today. The military communique states that Garcia Meza was not telling the truth when he said he had consulted with the institution to conduct illegal activities. [Excerpt] [PY231406 Paris AFP in Spanish 0319 GMT 21 Aug 82]

REPORTERS DETAINED--The La Paz Press Workers' Union has announced in a communique its protest of new measures against the freedom of expression. It charges that the reporter (Andres Pinto) and the photographer Mrs (Tani Flores De Orellana) of the DAILY HOY were detained while working near the military clinic where several wounded soldiers are hospitalized. The union categorically protests the interference with the work of the newsmen and demands free access to the sources of information. It warns that in the future it will not permit this type of attack and that it will take much stronger measures to safeguard the freedom of the press and the physical security and integrity of the union members. [Text] [PY201540 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Aug 82]

CSO: 3010/2188

TURBAY AYALA DEFENDS ARMS BUILDUP

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 1 Aug 82 pp 1-A, 6-A

[Article by Juan Jose Hoyos]

[Text] Medellin, 31 Jul --President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala said that Colombia would have to make a great effort to defend itself and to give its army not an excessive quantity of arms that would make the country a threat but just those necessary to ensure that the integrity of the nation's borders were respected.

"It is deplorable that we should have to return to the stability of force, to an armed peace at this date; we do not want arms to fight against any of our neighbors but to defend the nation we inherited," the chief of state said.

Turbay Ayala asserted that in the face of the dangers that threaten our country "on the occasion of public offers, not offers but announcements of invasions of part of our territory, we gain nothing by declaring that we are brave, determined, and have great courage, and that we will not allow one centimeter of our territory to be taken away."

"War is not conducted by one side with words and by the other with appropriate implements of war supplied by the powers that prod the small aggressor," the President noted.

"We used to say, and it was one of our boasts, that Colombia lacked the implements of war and that we barely had the arms necessary to solemnize the Holy Week processions," Turbay said. "Now we can no longer experience that pride of former days; now we have to have those new weapons which will help us defend the sanctity of treaties, the basis for justice and peace, while we continue to solemnize the sacred ceremonies."

Speaking at a banquet given in his honor by Antioquia businessmen at the Intercontinental Hotel in Medellin, the chief executive asserted that it was vital to help the Colombian Armed Forces, the new administration, and the one that follows it so that the nation would be in a position to improve its equipment for national defense.

National Consciousness

Invoking patriotic feelings, the President asked all Colombians to have a clear consciousness of the fact that we must be resolute in taking steps like this, steps that previously would have been labeled unnecessary, extravagant, objectionable, and contrary to the country's development process.

"We live in a society that is different from the traditional society in which we are learning new facts, new phenomena, in which the international impact of internal problems is greater than in any other stage in the history of the republic, and in which the contest, sometimes cold and sometimes not, between the two great powers for world dominance could quickly make us victims of their zeal," President Turbay said in supporting his call for the nation to arm itself adequately in self-defense.

Throughout his speech before several hundred businessmen of this region, the president several times alluded tacitly to the boundary dispute with Nicaragua and defended the need to accelerate the modernization of military equipment for the three armed services so that the nation would not be at a disadvantage vis-a-vis to its neighbors.

Call to the Parties

Turbay also issued a new call to the two traditional parties to avoid dissipating themselves in sterile disputes and to comprehend the dangers that threaten Colombian democracy at present.

After praising the climate of harmony and understanding that prevailed in the country during his term, the president said, "It is my opinion that the dangers that threaten Colombian democracy are so many that if this climate of harmony, cordiality, and understanding does not continue, we cannot remain very optimistic about the future of Colombia."

He then added, "On the contrary, and without trying to be a prophet of doom, to the extent that we are inferior to present circumstances and the challenge of the times and do not realize the nature of the dangers that threaten us and how the turbulent Caribbean today constitutes an area of deep concern, we could become--God forbid it--like certain Central American countries."

Turbay maintained that "this nation responds at its best when it is treated fairly; conversely, it displays characteristics of unusual ferocity when it does not receive proper treatment."

"I have seen and I have suffered through the Colombian experience on different occasions," he said. I have seen the parties sharing responsibilities and working in the service of the nation, and I have also seen them destroying themselves and with them our democratic institutions to the point where it was impossible to maintain a civilian government.

"So we already know about the dangers that threaten us, and therefore I am certain that we have a promising future in which we will understand each other

and continue to live in a generation that will preserve the rights of the communities that have made, with all their vices and defects, the history of the republic," he added.

The Next Administration

With regard to the new administration that will assume the leadership of the country on 7 August, Turbay said that he was sure Colombia would be ruled by "a man who has in his favor not only his personal sincerity but also the fact that he represents the virtues of the people of Antioquia."

The president expressed the certainty that Belisario Betancur would do a good job. "That is my fondest hope," he said.

Toward the end of his speech, after recalling that he belonged to a family that was not listed in the social register, "an honorable family but one relatively new in the history of the country, on the paternal side, President Turbay said that he was leaving the government without having attempted or taken reprisals of any kind against those who attacked him during the election campaign which resulted in his election as president.

"My president campaign was hard; I had to confront the lowest charges ever hurled against any presidential candidate," Turbay said.

He also thanked the Colombian people, especially Antioquia, for the wholehearted support given him during his presidential term. "What more could I ask of life, of my countrymen," he said.

Finally, he mentioned his daughter, Diana Turbay, the presidential private secretary, and his wife, Nidya Quintero de Turbay. "She does not engage in politics, she engages in patriotism, and the country responds to those who serve it without personal aspirations, as she did." He said he was moved by the homage paid to him by the businessmen of Antioquia.

9015

CSO: 3010/2113

BETANCUR: MEASURES TO BE TAKEN AGAINST TAX EVADERS

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 4 Aug 82 pp 1-A, 6-A

[Interview with President Belisario Betancur; date and place not specified]

[Text] President Belisario Betancur announced that there would be no tax amnesty during his government and that on the contrary drastic penal measures would be taken against tax evaders.

In an interview given to EL PAIS ECONOMICO Betancur criticized monetarist policies, which he said were wrong, while stating that it was not necessary to produce a recession and unemployment in order to combat inflation.

The chief executive, who will be inaugurated next Saturday, added that he would commit his government to the task of reducing the fiscal deficit "by means of a drastic reduction in operating expenses."

He also revealed that the government would counteract economic concentration and that talks were being held with Brazil on the coffee agreement.

The text of the interview with Betancur is as follows:

[Question] The industrial sector is going through a difficult phase stage; according to forecasts published by DANE [National Administrative Department of Statistics] and FEDESARROLLO, growth will come to only 1 percent in 1982. Could you tell us what measures would take priority for decisive action aimed at reviving the Colombian productive sector?

[Answer] At bottom the principal cause of the problems of industry and the economy as a whole during the present crisis is inflation. This erodes the buying capacity of the Colombian people's income and reduces aggregate demand; it raises interest rates; it robs our products of the ability to compete with foreign products; it halts investment and encourages speculation; and it leads some officials to think that the remedy lies in getting up additional administrative obstacles for the private sector, even in those economic areas where no monopolies exist. Inflation robs the workers of the right to acquire the goods and services they hoped for when they agreed to commit themselves to a certain company. Therefore, I will seek social justice and the development of the country by combatting inflation.

I do not believe, like the monetarists, that it is necessary to produce recession and unemployment in order to combat inflation. Unemployment is, like inflation, a social injustice which I will not accept as the price of any economic strategy. The experience of several Western countries, including Colombia shows that inflation still continues even when the country enters a stage of recession and unemployment as deep and long as the one we are experiencing... and therefore the monetarist strategy is wrong.

In order to combat inflation, I am going to commit my government to reducing the fiscal deficit by means of a drastic lowering of operating expenses. I am going to guide personal savings into production, especially in agriculture and low-income housing; this will be done through a chain of events that will raise demand for industrial products and productive employment in the private sector. I am going to stimulate exports to the greatest extent possible, control smuggling, and raise the tariffs on those goods that represent luxury consumption only. This will necessarily help industry and raise employment.... When the country realizes the scope and determination of this effort, inflationary expectations will also recede.... Of course, I need the support of public opinion to reduce the fiscal deficit. Because there are vested interests involved in every area of operating expenses--many of which are respectable--that are going to try to defend them. But the country must understand that resources are limited, and it is necessary to set priorities, sacrificing not only superfluous expenditures but also some meritorious expenditures which, all the same, the country cannot afford.

The desire to spend for everything and to assign a budget appropriation to every good cause, even though it be so small that it cannot produce results, is what, taken altogether, produces the deficit, inflation, competition between the public and private sectors for the margin of monetary expansion, unemployment, speculation, administrative obstacles, and even public immorality.

Priorities. Priorities... over vested interests.

The Fiscal Crisis

[Question] In a recent interview you gave to VISION, Mr President, several alternatives were mentioned for overcoming the fiscal crisis. Could you explain in detail such aspects as the review of the tax system? Would a reduction in present rates be considered if stimuli were created for the timely payment of obligations? Will there be a tax amnesty and will double taxation be eliminated?

[Answer] As you know, certain government revenues, such as the income tax, have lost their dynamism. There are many reasons for this phenomenon, among them the fact that for several years inflation has caused nominal incomes of taxpayers to be taxed at higher rates, increasing their tax burden in real terms and creating new stimuli for evasion. Thus I think it is time to reduce taxes to more realistic levels; but I want the added income that Colombians will receive to be funneled into production. This is a complex subject, and

the details will have to be regulated by law. Part of the proposal to make the tax burden more appropriate is the elimination of double taxation, as I promised in my campaign. Taxes that are more in line with the capabilities of the economy and the funneling of more income into production will necessarily mean a revival of the country from stagnation, an increase in employment, and, incidentally, of government revenues also. But in no way can the use of the tax structure be relinquished as an instrument of the redistribution of income, nor should anyone be under the simple illusion that it is only necessary to reduce taxes and people will pay them.... It is necessary to create simultaneously much more efficient and drastic systems to combat that antisocial conduct par excellence, tax evasion, including penal sanctions. I do not foresee a tax amnesty.

Economic Concentration

[Question] There is a marked preoccupation with the scandals that have arisen in the financial sector. Measures have been announced in recent years to counteract economic concentration without positive results to date. What mechanisms or initiatives do you foresee to slow down this phenomenon and speculation?

[Answer] There are already many regulations whose object is to counteract economic concentration through the financial sector and to ensure that the assets of the system are of adequate quality. These regulations will have to be brought up to date in accordance with the recent experiences of the country and the development of the economy..., but in addition it is necessary to stimulate the use of indicators that will help us discern sufficiently ahead of time when a financial institution is heading toward a crisis. We have to arrange for such institutions to be audited for the protection of the public, and not only the stockholders, without increasing the government bureaucracy.

The government has administrative mechanisms that are more or less efficient for counteracting economic concentration; it will use them energetically. In addition, it will do nothing to hinder responsible and honest people who demonstrate the ability and expertise to offer good financial services to compete in the market.

The Coffee Situation

[Question] What prospects do you see for the coming meeting of the International Coffee Organization in London? Do you think that Colombia's position is strong enough to achieve a renegotiation of the agreement and maintain its coffee export quotas throughout the world?

[Answer] It is not possible to prophesy about the coming meeting of the International Coffee Organization. Colombian coffee production and its participation in the international market has increased considerably and to ignore these facts and their consequences would be a serious error. Colombia prefers the stability of a coffee agreement with an ample consensus of

producers and consumers and without favoritism. The absence of an agreement would mean serious sacrifices, but Colombia would not be the country most affected. We are again holding talks with Brazil, which named a very high-level mission to my inauguration. I have expressed my gratitude for this gesture, and I am confident that the dialogue to be held on this subject, in which our joint efforts have been so fruitful in the past, will produce optimum results.

9015

CSO: 3010/2113

LANDAZABAL REYES' 'SOCIAL CONFLICT' PUBLISHED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 31 Jul 82 p 7-B

[Text] The release of the book "Social Conflict," written by Gen Fernando Landazabal Reyes and published by Bedout SA, took place yesterday afternoon at the Colombian Publishing Industry Association.

The work, containing 510 pages, addresses 51 topics related to the social, economic and political factors of subversion in Latin America and Colombia. Gen Landazabal Reyes analyzes the phenomenon of the social confrontation stemming from the ideological struggle between capitalism and communism, and the motives which inspire the governing classes of the East and the West.

Among the topics addressed by the author of "Social Conflict" are those entitled, Latin America in the face of the strategy of Marxism; Reason for the military dictatorship in the Latin American postwar environment; Insurrection as a result of the vices of the social state; Origin, philosophy and general environment of the revolutionary war; Armed repression--worthless as the sole recourse; Historical process of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC); Historical process of the Army of National Liberation (ELN); The Camilo Torres Movement; and The Popular Liberation Army (EPL).

President-elect Dr Belisario Betancur, Minister of Defense Gen Camacho Leyva, top ranking officers of the armed forces and the National Police, ambassadors, political leaders, newsmen and intellectuals were invited to the ceremony of the release of the first copies of the latest work of General Landazabal.

The author of "Social Conflict" is currently viewed in the military academies of Latin America and the United States as one of the best analysts of the phenomena of war, guerrillas and terrorism.

8414

CSO: 3010/2112

COMMANDER URGES STRENGTHENED AIR POWER

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 30 Jul 82 p 17-B

[Text] In the editorial of the latest issue of the periodical AERONAUTICA, currently being circulated, Gen Raul Alberto Paredes Diago, commander of the Colombian Air Force (FAC), advocated strengthening Colombian air power and said that "we cannot avoid the various threats in view of the country's extensive and definite position on the world's largest inner sea, which makes us neighbors of every country on those waters."

Further on, he says: "The founders of the Colombian nationality imprinted a character of peacefulness and respect for the law in its relations with other countries. Our attitude is occasionally criticized for being too closely bound to the principles established by the international community, even when apparently sacrificing what could be our own interests. But something is changing. The bloody conflicts that have afflicted the world have been viewed by Colombians from afar, as something happening to others that need not concern us.

"We were curious about World War I and realized in World War II that it was not confined by national borders. Latin America was a peaceful exception. Afterwards, power has concentrated in two giant poles of influence that attract nations and set them to revolve in their orbits with greater or lesser attraction, like an atomic structure in permanent motion. At present, its gravitational center is shifting dangerously close to our immediate vicinity in the Caribbean."

Paredes Diago recalls a U.S. general who said that "air power is not solely the weapons of aviation, but the whole activity of aviation, civil and military, commercial and private, in existence and potential." Thus, he says, air power is the total flying capability of a country. It provides air transportation in peacetime and wartime, be it cargo or passengers, airborne troops or destructive ammunition--everything that a plane provides to people under one flag for their welfare and defense.

This is his first rationale. Air power is indivisible; it is the assertion of our sovereignty. Military and civil aviation are supported by the same elements of national power. The same airports can be used by civil and

military planes; the logistics are the same. Hence the importance of restructuring all the organizations of air power under common objectives, to guarantee their better utilization to the Colombian people.

Another rationale is that air power will exist for a nation so long as it has the political right to fly and to control its own airspace, so long as it retains the physical capability to do so. At present, we link these two aspects and we cannot lose them. It is vital that we become aware of the importance of these two doctrines as we need them for the defense of the Colombian people.

8414

CSO: 3010/2112

HYDROELECTRIC CONTRACT WITH USSR SIGNED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 30 Jul 82 p 18-B

[Text] One of the largest hydroelectric and engineering projects in the country and in South America gathered new momentum yesterday with the signing of the contract between the Electric Corporation of the Atlantic Coast (CORELCA) and the ENERGOACHEXPORT enterprise of the Soviet Union for the provision of the generating equipment. The contract was signed in the presence of Chief of State Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala and his successor, Belisario Betancur.

The project, named the Hydroelectric Harnessing of the Upper Sinu, calls for the construction of two power plants--Urrea I and Urrea II--in the department of Cordoba. A report of the Colombian Electrical Power Institute (ICEL) on the technical aspects of the works, points out:

"The harnessing of the Upper Sinu will be effected in Cordoba Department, and consists in the utilization of the natural volume of water of the Sinu River augmented by waters diverted from the San Jorge and Verde rivers by means of power plants Urrea I, of 340,000-kilowatt capacity, and Urrea II, of 860,000-kilowatt capacity.

"The diversion of the San Jorge River is being done at a place located 120 kilometers from the town of Juan Jose by using a diverting dam. The volume of water diverted by this work is 5 cubic meters per second.

"The diversion of the Verde River is being done 5 kilometers upstream from the town of Saiza by using a diverting dam. The volume of water diverted will be 63 cubic meters per second."

With regard to the larger power plant, Urrea II, the ICEL notes: "It is located downstream of the discharges of the diversions of the San Jorge and Verde rivers, which augment the volume of water of the Sinu River to an average 345 cubic meters per second at the site of the dam, which is a rock-fill construction of a maximum 175 meter height. The impounded waters will have a volume of 28.8 billion cubic meters, of which 14.3 billion cubic meters will be used to regulate the flow of the waters. In volume, this is the largest body of impounded waters in the country and its annual energy output will be 3,400 GWH.

The surface machinery house is equipped with four Francis type turbines which will power four generators of 215,000-kilowatt capacity each.

Regarding the Urra I plant, it is pointed out: "It is located 68 kilometers downstream from the Urra II plant and uses the volume of water of the Sinu River and the volumes diverted from the San Jorge and Verde rivers, making a total average volume of 406 cubic meters of water per second at the site of the dam, which is a rockfill construction with a central waterproof core having a maximum height of 71 meters. The surface machinery house will be equipped with four Francis type turbines of 85,000-kilowatt capacity each.

"The total cost of the works, including the infrastructure needed to carry them out, the deforestation of the flooded areas, the camps and offices to operate them, and their interconnection with the national grid, is \$845 million, and they are expected to go on stream in the first semester of 1988.

"The project will be jointly performed by the ISA [Interconexión Eléctrica S.A.] and the CORELCA, whose shares are 43.9 percent and 56.1 percent, respectively."

Turbay Speaks

In his address, the president basically referred to the following topics: "I am able to affirm, without being a visionary, that the Atlantic coast will be the richest, most promising, most authentic area of development of our nation before the end of this century.

"The Urra project has the greatest economic and social connotations and will serve to give that great impetus to development.

"We are in a position to exchange technology, to maintain relations with all countries, showing consideration for their different ideologies and the understanding that there are basic principles which guarantee harmony among nations.

"Colombia is a law-abiding country, a country of principles; it has shown that at all times, and it respects basic principles such as nonintervention.

"We deem that we should not intervene directly or indirectly in the internal affairs of the countries with which we have relations, and have always claimed the same right in turn. We do not want intervention, either indirect or of any other sort, but entrust our destiny to the very capability of determination of the Colombian people.

"I am very pleased with the statements of the ambassador of the Soviet Union, which confirm a posture that his government has repeatedly made known to us, and that is full respect for our sovereignty without trying to interfere in any way in any of our activities.

"We will never accept any kind of intervention under any conditions or circumstance, but will always reject them whether they be direct or indirect.

"It has been demonstrated that, when dealing with the defense of the national interest, governments of different political principles can unite with equal enthusiasm to advance the cause of progress."

BRIEFS

FAIT EUROPEAN TOUR--Alberto Fait, first vice president of Costa Rica, on Friday will begin a 15-day visit to several European countries to obtain \$80 million worth of credits. He will be accompanied by Juan Bonilla, executive president of the Costa Rican Development Corporation. They will visit Romania, France and Austria. Fait said that the trip will benefit the country and that his tour seeks important resources at this time of crisis. Fait will begin his tour in Romania, where a trade protocol for \$30 million will be signed and through which the surplus of coffee and rice will be sold. In Romania, 25,000 tons of aluminum [words indistinct] and raw material for the production of fertilizers will be purchased. In France, two credit agreements for \$15 million each for the expansion of telephone lines and to help the balance of payments will be signed. In Austria, the vice president will promote the sale of finished aluminum products and a loan for \$20 million for the installation of 250 to 5,000 kilowatt hydroelectric plants connected to the national electricity network. [Text] [PA242216 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Aug 82]

CSO: 3010/2219

EASTERN ARMY PARTY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 8 Jul 82 pp 42-43

[Article by Lesmes La Rosa]

[Text] To visit a school of the party's [PCC--Communist Party of Cuba] educational system is like penetrating a trench full of ideas. The focus of these lines is a large motorized infantry unit of the Eastern Army. It is chalking up successes and experience. Its management indicates that it has known how to proceed along the path of success. The attendance and punctuality of the unit demonstrates this; so do the retentiveness and the grades. So does the progress attained.

Nevertheless, the fundamental thing is the high degree of consciousness raising which its students are acquiring day by day. It is sufficient to recall that these institutions occupy a major place in the raising of the political-ideological level of the activists and aspirants to party membership to point the way to the tasks which the building of socialism, the struggle against the remains of the old society, and the attempts at ideological penetration by the enemy demand.

If you talk with noncommissioned officer Lazaro Bientz Ramirez, a student at the basic level (about to be concluded), he will tell you that the school is for him a necessary and opportune employment because:

"During the time that I was a party aspirant I passed the relevant course. With my activity in the cell, I grasped the norms of the internal life, I could appreciate the value of criticism and self-criticism, and I studied the fundamental documents such as the program platforms, the bylaws, and the regulations. With collective help, I received adequate preparation for my life as an activist.

"A year ago I achieved that status. As we know, the demands are increasing. The cell selected me to study for the basic level. My political knowledge has increased. The school has served me in many ways. I have subordinates under my command and each passing day I note that I am better prepared to work with them and to link party needs to combat activities and political training. I have had the honor to pass along experience in political party work to my organization and also to the base committee of the UJC [Union of Young Communists]."

Indeed, in the headquarters report to the Second PCC Congress it was noted that in the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces], "for the internal education of the activists, three levels of party instruction have been organized through which the mass and systematic involvement of the party activists and aspirants in the study of Marxism-Leninism has been promoted," and he estimated that "the sustained effort of the political organs, the party organizations, and all their activists to increase their political-ideological training and that of all the personnel has reaped a rich harvest and is worthy of recognition."

In This Trench

In this unit's party school, basic and intermediate courses in this type of instruction are held. An eagerness for study and seriousness of approach have been stepped up these days. Reviews are increased in number. Final examinations are just around the corner and there is a common effort to achieve the best collective and individual grades as a worthy tribute to the 29th anniversary of the assault on the Moncada and the Bayamo barracks.

Mario Diaz Hernandez is the director. If something gives him satisfaction it is that there have been no academic dropouts in the courses, either for normal reasons or because of problems of assimilation. Depending on the levels involved, a broad curriculum is offered which includes such disciplines as political economy (of capitalism and socialism), political and party work, Marxist-Leninist philosophy, and scientific communism.

The effort made to learn has been constant. The average grade is better than 90 percent. Such achievement is the result of intensive work by the school's board of directors and the students' party organizations.

Although absences are uncommon, when they occur they are the object of analysis and, should the case warrant it, appropriate notice is given.

Together with these checks, two factors go hand-in-hand: The resolve and personal example of the students, among whom are some heads of small units. There is complete awareness that it is necessary to keep on implementing and perfecting the spread and level of the teaching of Marxism-Leninism directed to the cadres and activists given that the building of socialism in our country requires an increasingly scientific leadership of our society. It demands more qualified and efficient work by the communists and better technical training with the aim of meeting the new historical conditions of the class struggle.

To Study and Study

To talk to students at the school is to hear words full of praise about the benefits of the party's instructional method. Civilian worker Oris Copeyo is employed at the No 2 Military Construction Enterprise. He is registered in the basic course. The knowledge that in short order one of his courses in political and ideological training will be over and with that he will also

complete a task set for him by his party cell generates deep emotion in him. In this respect he noted the following:

"I am studying as hard as I can. I am trying to assimilate the maximum in each discipline. I will not appear in the cell with a 'poor' record. For me this school is very useful. My work requires very direct ties with the workers and what I am learning here is of practical and immediate application. We hope that the communists will know how to organize and mobilize the masses before any situation whatever, however difficult it may be.

"Our ideological activity is of a daily nature and is constant. But in order to develop it as it should be done, we must be well prepared. The course helps in this respect, too."

In everyone's opinion the school is going well. The study and reading programs are being implemented. The basic instructional material is adequately used. Finally, assimilation is optimal. As regards the factors which make these achievements, we referred to the director. He said:

"Above all, there is the influence of the party cells. These suggest to the comrades that in their opinion they should pursue those studies. Similarly, the organizations concern themselves constantly with the students' development, with assistance, evaluation, while the activists in their grading must take this aspect into account. There is a very close link between the school and the cells. The reports are systematic and reciprocal.

"Another element which contributes to the effectiveness of our courses is the role of the instructors as a whole. The majority have completed their degree work in the social sciences or education. The classes are taught at a high level and with scientific rigor. During their preparation, valuable exchanges of opinion take place, all of which redounds on the instructional process in a positive way."

One should also mention the holding of conferences on subjects related to those included in the program. This promotes the broadening of the student body's knowledge. On its part, the unit's political section pays systematic attention to the functioning of the center.

To Crown the Triumph

A recess has been called in the review activities. The students go out into the corridor "to get a breather." Some jockey for first place in front of the water fountain. On a bench three others are discussing something. They are not talking of a theme or a problem but rather of the preparations for celebrating the imminent conclusion of the course. And also, how to toast the educational triumph which is already taking shape.

2662

CSO: 3010/2054

FAR NATIONAL PROPAGANDA SEMINAR CONCLUDES

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 8 Jul 82 pp 10-11

[Article by Carlos Gorina]

[Text] The National Propaganda Seminar of the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] was concluded recently at FAR headquarters.

In the course of this event, an evaluation was made of the work carried out during the 1981-82 Year of Instruction, which produced positive results in the entire field of agitation and propaganda and was executed by the workers on the ideological front. The lines of future work were also blocked out.

Major Speech

The major speech, delivered by Col Ibrain Alfonso Victorero, head of the agitation and propaganda directorate of the FAR's Central Political Directorate, fully recognized the effort accomplished in Marxist-Leninist and political preparation in the 1981-82 Year of Instruction. In analyzing this aspect, he noted that systematic attention was given to perfecting the programs, the basic instructional material, and methodological assistance. In addition, there was greater participation in seminars, and there were short courses and inspection and assistance visits in different areas.

As regards mass agitation, various drives were effected in support of many activities, principally the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the landing from the "Granma" and the Day of the FAR as well as operational, combat, and political preparation, among other aspects.

Another part of the report told of advances in the development of the system of party education. In this respect, the FAR's Central Political Directorate focused attention on this important sphere of work with the purpose that, at the end of the present 5-year plan, the majority of the military may have passed through one of the three levels that make up the system: Basic, intermediate, and advanced instruction.

The work undertaken by the leadership of the FAR's Rearguard, the Troops' Construction and Accommodation Unit, the DAAFAR [Antiaircraft Defense and Revolutionary Air Force], and the Central Army--which achieved greater planning compared to the rest of the commands--was singled out.

During the period under review, the mass cultural work in the FAR had as its major goal the satisfaction of the spiritual and recreational needs of the troops as well as the strengthening of their moral political state. The cultural work realized at this stage was characterized by its dynamism and the accomplishments in its major endeavors--with the support provided by the leaders, the political organs (party apparatus), and the organizations of the PCC and the UJC [Union of Young Communists] standing out.

It was stressed that recreation was bolstered and considerably with the inclusion of outside activities through cooperation with the National Cultural Workers Union [SNTC]. A total of 3,224 activities were organized with professional artists, who did this work on a voluntary basis.

The work of the military press, radio, and television was also considered in depth. "Combat and political preparation," the headquarters report noted, "work with technology, armament, and other major themes was treated systematically and there was a strong tendency to reflect in depth and with originality on the life and military activities of the troops, particularly those units in remote places, these being lines of thought which should be emphasized in the future."

The work during the 1981-82 Year of Instruction was analyzed by the review VERDE OLIVO as well as INFORMACION POLITICA, the radio program "At 2000 Hours," and the television and motion picture studios of the FAR.

FAR headquarters also achieved its political, ideological, cultural, and recreational objectives with the officials and their families as well as completing other tasks set by the Central Political Directorate.

The headquarters report, submitted for debate and approved unanimously by all the participants, also mentioned the work carried out by the artistic team, the review TRABAJO POLITICO, and the instruction of the FAR's Central Political Directorate.

Committee Work

Various papers, very useful for future endeavors, were presented in each of the committees which held meetings during the FAR's National Propaganda Seminar.

Among other things, they touched on experiences with literary work among the personnel of the DAAFAR. Papers also dealt with major activities of the party cells in relation to propaganda for conferences in the Central Army. Also the role, place, and missions of the armed forces and means designed for programming work, the distribution of films, and the improvement and maintenance of the instruments for political work. Another subject was experiences encountered in the application of various directives.

The participants at the meeting witnessed a practical demonstration of planning, organization, and realization of mass political work in a unit of the Western Army.

Victor Manuel Gonzalez, deputy commander of the DOR [Revolutionary Orientation Department], spoke in the Committee on the Press, Radio, and Television about the fulfillment of the tasks outlined by the Second PCC Congress in the field of the written media.

A report on the preparatory work for the Fourth Congress of UNEAC [National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists] was given by Armando Cristobal Perez, vice president of that institution, to those attending the Committee on Mass Cultural Work.

Cols Victor S. Shubin and Dobluk V. reported on the theory and practice of special propaganda in the Soviet armed forces and psychological and educational issues in the generalization of conferences.

Conclusions

The final session of the FAR's National Propaganda Seminar was chaired by Antonio Perez Herrero, alternate member of the PCC's Politburo and member of its Secretariat, and by Maj Gen Sixto Batista Santana, also an alternate member of the party's Politburo and head of the FAR's Central Political Directorate.

Perez Herrero made the closing remarks. He offered some reflections on certain specifics of political work in the FAR. He said of the latter that "it constitutes a firmly consolidated system whose efficiency and breadth guarantee the fulfillment of the basic objectives in the education of personnel, the functioning of the party organizations, and the guarantee of the tasks that are required of it," and that "with the passage of time this system is growing broader and becoming perfected, is becoming more firmly established, and can count on better prepared and more competent comrades."

Perez Herrero referred to the volume of the tasks accomplished by the military in this most recent period and whose fulfillment, he noted, "is an indication of the high degree of awareness and responsibility of our fighters, an example of their discipline, a demonstration of the cadres' capabilities, as well as proof of the effectiveness of the political-ideological work."

Broaching the subject of planning of the FAR's propaganda and agitation work, he noted that it will be better perfected "to the extent that it takes greater account of the specifics of military considerations, the tasks that stem from the nature of the units and institutions, as well as the peculiarities of the different periods of instruction and the time spent by the servicemen in given tasks."

And he specified:

"As regards how to plan, we incline toward the overcoming of temporary focal points rather than in campaign style, and we prefer the definition of permanent themes and the elaboration of plans for their execution."

"We are convinced of the need to apply criteria that tend to simplify that effort, but we also insist that it is necessary to study for that, to think about and discuss what is necessary, to identify the fundamental issues in order to perfect the work and make it more profound, hoping that all this will contribute to eliminating excessive paperwork and formalism."

Perez Herrero referred to the unquestionable advances made in Marxist-Leninist and political training, in the teaching of the social sciences in the CEMs [Military Training Centers], and in the system of party instruction. In addition, he said that in areas like propaganda for conferences, the military press, radio, and television and mass political work can accomplish even greater results. In that connection he emphasized:

"Under present circumstances in which the growing accumulation of the tasks facing the units is evident, it is necessary that these activities, through their form and content, contribute to the recreation and rest of the troops. That depends especially on the skill and mastery of our propagandists."

Concerning military film-making, Perez Herrero said that it has "witnessed a development which enables it to produce features on different subjects" and is also in a position to turn our products as important and ambitious as "La gran rebelion" [The Great Rebellion], which "was one proof of the capacity that the FAR already has to undertake work of major scope whose general outcome is indisputably very positive."

He also mentioned in his speech the actions of the FAR in the face of the sudden floods which recently isolated some regions of Cuba as follows:

"Just as in the face of the imperialist menace, our people feel the presence of the Revolutionary Armed Forces in the presence of natural calamities like the floods of recent days.

"Both the eyewitnesses of the dramatic moments experienced a few days ago and those who learned of them through Cuba's mass media saw new evidence of the heroism and skill of our fighters who, with risk to their own lives and in exceptionally difficult circumstances, did not allow themselves an instant of rest while a single citizen was in danger."

Perez Herrero concluded his speech by transmitting his greetings to the participants of the National Propaganda Seminar and expressing "the certainty that those recently called to service by Comrade Raul [Castro] will find the echo which his orientations have always had in the FAR and that the work will be successfully accomplished, characterized by creativity and a full display of initiative. We are sure that the political work will proceed as always, in the forefront."

2662

CSO: 3010/2054

RESISTANCE PERSISTS AFTER ELECTIONS, U.S. AID TO REGIME

East Berlin HORIZONT in German Vol 15 No 29, Jul 82 (signed to press 12 Jul 82) p 12

[Interview with Norma Guevara, member, Political-Diplomatic Committee, 'Farabundo Martí' Liberation Movement (FMLN), Democratic-Revolutionary Front (FDR); by Bernd Graessler, correspondent, HORIZONT: "El Salvador: Deceptive Tactic of the Regime"]

[Text] [Question] Has the election farce of 28 March made any basic change in the situation of the Salvadoran people?

[Answer] Unfortunately it has only confirmed what we had stated even before the "election," that this balloting would bring no solution to the deep crisis in our country. On the contrary, it has only brought us further away from any negotiated solution. The "elections" were planned in advance with the intention of continuing the war, supported by a regime which would wrap itself up in the veil of a supposed legality.

In those terms the situation has not changed. As the Salvadoran human rights commission recently confirmed, more than 2,000 political murders have been carried out since the "elections."

The fascist forces represented by the transitional President Magana express their "concern" for our people by persecuting them, suppressing them and denying them peace. We cannot see even the hint of a positive change in the policies of this administration that would work in favor of the Salvadoran people.

[Question] The youth of El Salvador at an anti-imperialist tribunal convened during the 11th general assembly of the World Federation of Democratic Youth in Prague accused U.S. imperialism of being the chief instigator of crimes against the people of El Salvador and the main stumbling block to any negotiated solution. What are the main points of this accusation?

[Answer] There are many pieces of evidence which point to the responsibility of U.S. imperialism for the war against the people of El Salvador. The first one that I would mention is the fact that the United States from 1979 to 1980 supplied the regime in San Salvador with military assistance which

was as great as their entire support during the preceding 50 years. The United States has extended more than 30 percent of its total budget for military assistance to Latin America to the fascist junta in San Salvador and these figures continue to rise. This becomes especially clear when you look at the budget for the ridiculous aid plan for Central America, 40 percent of which is destined for the Salvadoran junta.

We can point to the direct responsibility of the United States for the training of the Salvadoran killers on U.S. military bases in the Panama Canal Zone and with U.S. "counter-insurgency" units. At Fort Benning, for example the 5th elite unit of the Salvadoran Army was trained and instructed in killing. Nor can we forget the role of the notorious "vietnam experienced" Green Berets, who organized the Atlacatl Brigade, those infantry forces that were sent out into battle against the liberation forces. Their countless crimes have raised a wave of disgust throughout the world.

The result of these military assistance programs and the whole spectrum of U.S. political and economic support has been atrocities and terror, 34,000 dead, thousands of political prisoners, people persecuted and made to disappear, and some 800,000 refugees in various countries of Latin America.

Without U.S. support the military dictatorship and its puppet regime would long ago have toppled. As long as the United States pursues a policy of confrontation in the countries of Latin America and continues to supply these regimes with weapons, military equipment and advisors, there will be no end to the war and no prospects of a political solution through negotiations.

[Question] What do you think of the statement by transitional president Magana, that he is ready to open a dialog with the opposition?

[Answer] As Magana, who is in a sense Washington's spokesman in El Salvador, declared, he is ready for a dialog but not for negotiations. He is looking to deceive world opinion by this maneuver. What he wants is to hoodwink international opinion and even the U.S. Congress, which has repeatedly spoken out for a negotiated solution that would end the war in El Salvador and prevent the threat of an internationalization of the conflict in El Salvador and its spread to the whole of Central America.

A dialogue without negotiations is pointless because there is no evidence of any will to change, no intention of real action. Our reply to this deceptive tactic is to summon the people to an all-encompassing unity and to overthrow the regime. We continue to maintain our willingness to negotiate but at the same time we will continue our daily struggle to bring the victory of the people one step closer.

[Question] What is your estimate of the military situation of the liberation movement?

[Answer] Our front has shown great military abilities. It can produce proof that it is even in a position to penetrate the capital city, even to those sections of the city where the offices of the presidency are located. The

liberation front continues to hold the positions taken during the January offensive of 1981. We are creating and consolidating the people's authority in these areas. These are the victories and advances in the service of the goals and interests of our people.

The enemy is no longer bragging about the speedy annihilation of the liberation front. just recently the minister of defense declared that several years would be required before we would be defeated. This means that the propaganda disseminated over the past 2 years can no longer be made credible. The regime is no longer parading its military power nor making any more announcements of our alleged defeat. All of this makes it clear that our own military strength can no longer be denied.

9878

CSO: 2300/353

BRIEFS

ECONOMIC PLANNING SECRETARIAT DISMISSALS--Only 70 of the 240 employees of the Secretariat for Economic Planning reported for duty today after a massive dismissal went into effect. Gen Efraim Rios Montt announced these dismissals last week. According to reports, some employees who were not dismissed by Rios Montt resigned today. [PA222336 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 17 Aug 82]

CHARGES AGAINST FORMER OFFICIAL--A new warrant for the arrest of Otto Block, former president of the National Electricity Institute, has been issued. Block is charged with extortion reportedly in connection with the national highway program. This brings to a total of three the number of charges brought against Block. [PA222336 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 17 Aug 82]

OLADE MEETING IN OCTOBER--According to Alejandro Contreras, Guatemala's secretary of mining, hydrocarbons and nuclear energy, OLADE will hold a regional meeting here in Guatemala in October. OPEC delegates are expected to attend this meeting, where the potential of Latin America's oil deposits will be studied. The minister has also announced that OLADE will conduct two geothermic studies here in Guatemala and that next year Guatemala will reduce its oil consumption when a new hydroelectric project begins operating. [PA222336 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 18 Aug 82]

CSO: 3010/2230

TRADE TALKS WITH GUATEMALA UNPRODUCTIVE

PA202050 San Pedro SULA TIEMPO in Spanish 12 Aug 82 p 4

[Text] Trade relations with Guatemala will continue broken due to the intransigence of Guatemalan officials, who remained adamant during the negotiations that ended yesterday in Tegucigalpa. The negotiations ended at around 1100 and Guatemalan officials, headed by Economy Minister Julio P. Matheu Duchez, left without reaching an agreement after more than 2 days of negotiations.

Economy Minister Lic Gustavo Alfaro said that the Guatemalan demands cannot be accepted, as a matter of principle, because Guatemala wants to either implement its own measures, which harm our exports, or to abolish Decree 14-54. He said that the Guatemalans want Honduras to lift the 10-percent tax established by Decree 14-54, even though this matter had been settled by former Ministers Valentin Solorzano of Guatemala and Ruben Mondragon of Honduras.

"In these times of crisis, the Guatemalans continue to act frivolously," complained the official, accusing the Guatemalans of violating the bilateral treaty and of going back on the integrationist political decision which they once supported.

Alfaro also said that the decision was unilateral and in open disrespect of the agreement, which says that any problem must be solved by bilateral commissions. There are no provisions that either country may adopt unilateral decisions.

The minister said that the Guatemalan delegation was not satisfied with the proposal that facilities will be given to importers who bring articles from Central American countries, even though this does not mean that the expenditure of foreign exchange will be authorized, because this decision depends on the availability of foreign exchange at the Central Bank.

He explained that the businessmen might even have to make sacrifices and accept present markets or there might be a need to seek new or even additional suppliers.

Guatemala will be more affected than Honduras by the paralyzed trade exchange, because the balance of payments favors them and last year's figures reveal that Honduras exported 60 million lempiras and imported more than 90 million.

"We cannot sacrifice the country's principles for the sake of trade," he said.

Although the Guatemalans suggested we continue the negotiations next week in their country, Alfaro said that they would probably avail themselves of the meeting of Central American economy ministers which will take place today in San Salvador, or the meeting of the Central American Bank governing board on 20 August.

CSO: 3010/2219

BRIEFS

THREE UNION LEADERS KIDNAPPED--According to members of the Union of Public Employees for Highways, Airport Maintenance and Terminals (SEPCAMAC); the Union of Workers of the Hospital-School; and the SITRAUNAH [Union of Workers of the National Autonomous University of Honduras], three labor leaders have been kidnapped by armed men. SEPCAMAC President Jose Alfredo Flores reported yesterday that the organization's sergeant at arms was kidnapped by six armed men, who intercepted him as he left his work at Taller La Torre, on the road that leads to the 1st infantry battalion. Flores said: "We've inquired about their possible arrest by the police force, but the police chiefs told us that they have no union leaders under arrest." It was also learned that the sergeant at arms of the Union of Workers of the Hospital-School was also intercepted by a group of armed men dressed in civilian clothes. In addition, Emilio Gonzalez, president of the Central Federation of Unions of Free Honduran Workers, noted that he had already reported the kidnapping of a SITRAUNAH leader, though he did not disclose that leader's identity. Meanwhile, Flores said: "Despite our own efforts and those of our comrades' relatives, the search has been fruitless, because we still don't know who kidnapped our sergeant at arms." [Text] [PA220010 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 20 Aug 82 p 5]

NEWSMEN'S ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT--Adan Elvir Flores, director of the newspaper LA TRIBUNA, has been elected president of the Honduran Newsmen's Association. [PA221402 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 16 Aug 82]

NATIONAL PARTY RADIO SHOWS--The war without quarter between Zuniga supporters and the unity and change movement [National Party splinter groups] will intensify on 1 September through their radio programs. The Rivera supporters already have a radio program and the Zuniga supporters will go on the air on 1 September. [Excerpt] [PA262100 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 26 Aug 82]

NEW NATIONAL PARTY FACTION--A new faction has emerged from the National Party of Honduras. It is the Nationalist Independent Fraternity [Fraternidad Independiente Nacionalista--FIN]. [Excerpt] [PA262100 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 Aug 82]

CSO: 3010/2219

JUNTA MEMBERS ON 'FACE THE PEOPLE' PROGRAM

PA242100 Managua Sistema Sandinista de Television Network in Spanish 0000 GMT
24 Aug 82

[Excerpt] of "Face the People" program held 18 August in Santa Rosa neighborhood, Managua, with "members of the junta of national reconstruction," including Sergio Ramirez--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] I would like to ask a basically political question: We are all concerned over the attacks against our country from Costa Rica and Honduras, and over our domestic problems. We are mostly concerned about the problem with the Santa Rosa church. This attack was not carried out by the neighborhood committee, it was carried out by the Christian group. We are also concerned about the takeover of the Mormon temples. We are going to say this here, and we have said this before: In those temples we found evidence of counterrevolutionary activities. We turned this evidence over to the appropriate authorities. There was evidence that counter-revolutionary activities were being conducted there.

What concerns us most is that this is not just a neighborhood matter. It affects the whole nation. Imperialism is attacking us using the church issue as its battlecry. I wish you would explain the revolutionary government's position on this issue, although Commander Tomas Borge yesterday spoke about the incidents in Masaya. We wish you would tell us what to do about this religious issue. We respect, and we have always respected, church matters. However, we have the evidence. We found certificates, national guard [words indistinct] visits to forbidden areas, and a series of matters involving the pastors.

[Answer by unidentified junta member] You heard the National Directorate communique on this matter the night before last. We must stress that the FSLN has never been an enemy of religion. How could the FSLN possibly be the enemy of religion, if it is based on fundamentally Christian principles? How many of our companeros were killed struggling against Somoza? How many more companeros were killed afterwards in attacks by counterrevolutionary bands? Most of them were Christian companeros. How could the FSLN be an enemy of religion?

The FSLN had in its ranks fighters like Gaspar Garcia Laviana, a revolutionary priest, who was a true Christian. What happens is that the powerful enemies of our people have been using many weapons to divide the Nicaraguan people in order to pave the way for attacks.

A rich man will go out shouting that the revolution affects the interests of the wealthy. The poor people will, of course, ignore him. He cannot fool the people. Who is going to pay attention to anyone making such a complaint? If someone else starts saying that the Somozist guardsmen are in jail, and that they should be freed because they are men of good will, the people will also ignore him.

However, as they realize that they cannot fool or divide the people by doing this, they start manipulating the matter of religion. They start to use religion as an instrument that will enable them to divide the people. This policy of trying to make the people believe that the revolution is an enemy of religion is directed and praised by imperialism. It is followed in this country by those who are identified with imperialist interests.

This is the situation we have been experiencing these last few days. This situation arises now that attacks and threats of invasion are increasing daily. This is not a coincidence. The U.S. Congress has voted to give the president powers to use force if necessary, in any country, against any country. It is called the Symms amendment, because a congressman by the name of Symms proposed it. This amendment was praised and welcomed by some sectors in Honduras. They said "it would be wonderful if they send the Marines to Honduras. Let the U.S. soldiers come to Honduras, that would be wonderful."

Now the Honduran Government has issued an official communique saying that they do not agree. That in any case, this would have to be debated in the Honduran Congress. This is what they are saying now.

It is not a coincidence, however, that this campaign to give the impression that the revolution is an enemy of religion comes at a time when Nicaragua is more threatened than ever. Look at the way they manipulate reports. The only dead in all this uproar have been Sandinist companeros. One of them was a member of the Sandinist youth. The other was a worker. Seven other companeros were wounded. They were all victims of counterrevolutionary groups that shot at them from inside the Salesian school. These are the facts, and anyone can confirm this in this country. Any newsman from anywhere in the world can come here and confirm all this. No one will close doors on them.

How have they manipulated this information for foreign consumption? First of all, in Nicaragua there are news correspondents who, although born here, are completely identified with imperialist policies. They don't even deserve the honor of having been born in Nicaragua. These gentlemen have sent some dispatches abroad. According to their latest dispatches it was the Sandinist police, the Sandinist armed forces, who shot and killed students. We don't know which students the police killed. We know that the only student killed was a Sandinist student member of the Sandinist

youth who was killed by the counterrevolutionaries. There is a campaign against us, and there are people who support this campaign for political reasons.

You must then, clarify this to all the people in Santa Rosa. You must tell them the exact truth. Don't let them fool you. Some people go to a religious service and don't realize that it is a political event, and before they know it they are involved in a political confrontation. We cannot blame those people. We cannot say that everyone who attends those political events is involved in politics. These are the people they try to deceive. They try to divide them and make them ask themselves: What is going on now? Is the revolution against religion? That is what they say, when they see some revolutionary companeros who disagree with certain political attitudes.

We must say that in this country, ever since the revolutionary victory, if we go back to see how many priests and clergymen have been transferred elsewhere for political reasons, we would see that there were many. We should not have this situation here in Santa Rosa. We must bear in mind the attitude adopted by the Christian bases. The attitude that has been officially proclaimed by the government has been, "Well, let the clergymen stay where they are." We do not advocate the transfer of clergymen. The government knows that there are clergymen who are working here, who are transferred. We ask: Why are they being transferred? Apparently, for political reasons, because those clergymen were helping the workers and the poor people and identified themselves with revolutionary changes.

The revolution has never advocated an antireligious policy. On the contrary, the revolution upholds the people's right to exercise whatever religion they wish. The revolution, however, cannot allow religion to be used against the revolution. That is something else. We cannot agree with that type of activities. The FSLN communique is very clear on that. However, it is very important that you tell the truth about what really happened here, so that our people can know. We must not forget that our enemies might just be able to confuse some humble people, or others who are so backward that they don't realize what is going on. [Words indistinct] Rich people used to say the revolution was bad. They used to tell that to the poor masses. They used to tell them, "You have a horse. They are going to take that horse away from you." They used to tell the people on the farms, "If you have a cow, they will take it away from you. If you have a bicycle they will take it away from you." They said this to fill them with the terror that the revolution [words indistinct].

Of course, the people did not believe them. Now they are using the topic of religion. The revolution respects the people's religious feelings. The revolution respects the functioning of churches in this country. The revolution, however, cannot allow religious feelings to be used against the revolution, much less to shoot at the people, as happened at the Salesian school in Masaya. This is similar to the criminals who went to San Francisco Del Norte and murdered everyone in the name of God. They used the same slogans that are being used by the counterrevolutionaries disguised as Christians here. They are disguised as Christians, this is the worst part about it.

They are wealthy, lazy, usurping people, who had never gone to church before, and are now appearing to be very devout, great Christians. They are pharisees, whited sepulchers, that is what they are. The revolution cannot allow them to manipulate the people's feelings in order to carry out their counterrevolution. [Applause]

[Question] I live in Bello Horizonte. We are greatly concerned about the present situation of threats. We see U.S. intervention, war coming through Honduras. After 3 years of revolution, some of us have a low level of awareness because although many of us belong to batallions or the Sandinist People's Militia, we still are aware that many of our companeros, many Nicaraguans, are not in the People's Militia. Even worse, they are ideologically confused about the revolutionary process. We believe that LA PRENSA has done much harm in this sense. Perhaps we have tolerated LA PRENSA too much. I would like to make a request at the neighborhood level, for example in neighborhoods like Bello Horizonte, where there are people with the mentality of false bourgeoisies. They are not bourgeoisies, they are false bourgeoisie because they have no means of production. They are people with the mentality of leading an easy life. They want to make lots of money and not to make any sacrifices. That is the situation in those neighborhoods, and unfortunately there are many people like that.

My request is this: In view of the existing confusion, we should conduct a program of more work by the masses, more ideological work, more clarification. Although it is true that there are organizations like the base committees, neighborhood committees, and others, we need a more consistent operation. We need companeros who are ideologically better prepared to carry out more intensive neighborhood tasks, to take us out of our present political darkness. We must integrate more companeros into the People's Militia to defend our revolution, our family, our homes. I call on all the companeros from Bello Horizonte and these other neighborhoods to join the defense of the revolution and the fatherland.

[Answer by unidentified junta member] I believe that, as the companero said, there is a basic problem here from which we must not stray. The country is facing the threat of an attack. The U.S. Government is adopting an increasingly violent position against Nicaragua. It is trying to use Honduras as a base to attack Nicaragua. It tries to create problems between Nicaragua and Costa Rica so as to isolate our revolution to attack us. This is what we must basically bear in mind. First of all, Nicaragua seeks peace by all means. We are not seeking war. We are not looking for ways to invade Honduras, nor how to damage relations with Costa Rica. Basically, we want peace. To this end we are daily exerting great efforts in the diplomatic and political fields, trying to see how to consolidate our allies throughout the world and to tell them every day that Nicaragua wants peace. The last thing the Sandinist revolution wants is to lead the Nicaraguan people to war. For us, war is the last resource, when there are no other means of settling the situation. War would be the last thing we would wage. However, we would not fail to wage it.

We must also be fully aware of the need to organize ourselves for defense, like the companero was saying. We must report to the militia training centers that we opened yesterday, because we must be organized for peace and for defense.

The only way we can attain lasting peace is being ready to defend the revolution, and for the enemies of the revolution to know that we are ready to defend ourselves. Those of us who are aware should teach the ones who are not aware that we have basically one enemy, U.S. imperialism. We must always bear this in mind. We must not believe, either, that those Honduran military officers who are complaining about the revolution are the basic enemies of the revolution. That is not so, because if the Yankees were not behind them pushing, these gentlemen would be completely peaceful. We have one main enemy, and we must not forget it.

How are we going to face this enemy? The first weapon we need here is national unity. We need the unity of all Nicaraguans to face an enemy, and it is not a small enemy. We are not only going to face up to the Yankees with weapons, but in all areas, as we are doing now. We are already defeating the Yankees in the political and the diplomatic areas. We already have an advantage in those areas. We have truth on our side, and no matter how many lies the Yankee news agencies spread, no matter what deceptions they want to stage, truth always prevails, and we have truth on our side.

However, we must be united. The people must be united and ready. As the communique that the National Directorate issued 2 nights ago clearly states, we have this basic enemy and we must not get involved in the domestic squabbles that the enemy wants to provoke to divide us. The enemy wants to divide us because if we are divided, we become weaker. That is why we must have this awareness that this revolution has the animosity of the United States. The U.S. Government does not like this revolution. It wants to see the revolution destroyed. They want to see our people disorganized, divided, disarmed. They don't want our people to be ready to defend themselves. That is what we must not allow.

In ancient history there was a city called Byzantium which was attacked. When it was attacked the people were inside the temples debating the sex of the angels. When the enemy army arrived and surrounded the city, the people, instead of being prepared to defend themselves, were inside the temples debating whether the angels were masculine or feminine. They spent months debating that, and the enemy took the city. That is where "Byzantine" comes from, to say that a debate is useless. This is what we have to be watching. We must be careful not to fall into Byzantine debates. We must be on the alert.

The enemy wants to make us fall into Byzantine debates, meanwhile he arms Somozist guards across the border. We must lay aside all squabbles. We must say "here is the enemy. He is the one who wants to destroy us, and this is the one we must fight with every means possible." We must have a revolutionary awareness, and if we have it we must pass it on to the companero whose awareness is not as developed as ours. We must open his eyes and tell

him that they are deceiving him. There is no religious problem here. The struggle is not against the church. It is against U.S. imperialism, which wants to destroy this revolution. Then we will be invincible, when we are all ready to defend the fatherland with our weapons and with a revolutionary awareness.

[Question] Dear companero of the junta of the government of national reconstruction, Sergio Ramirez Mercado. I would like to ask what attitude the government will take concerning the U.S. ship off the coast of Jiquilillo?

[Ramirez Mercado] As you know, the Yankee government is one of the most powerful in the world. It has all kinds of ships, destroyers, aircraft carriers, and submarines. Now they send one of their ships to just about 10 miles off our coast. There have been other ships off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. They do this to scare us. It is like the lion you see at the beginning of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer movies. It roars. And this is the Yankee lion's roar. It bares its teeth to show us that it is strong.

However, they do this with us, a weak country, because we do not have a warship to go and shoot it out with their ship. We don't have any submarines. We don't have jet planes to go see what happens with that ship. This is a ridiculous action on the part of the U.S. Government. It is ridiculous to place one of their warships off the coast of a weak country that does not have the means to defend itself under those circumstances. The only thing the U.S. Government achieves through those high-handed actions, that braggadocio, that bullying, is to make a fool of itself before the international community.

We denounce these actions to the world, to the United Nations. However, it is the U.S. Government that is making a fool of itself.

I am going to repeat something that I have said before. On our side we have a much greater strength than the guns or missiles in those warships, and in the whole U.S. Navy. That strength that we have is justice and truth. That is the strength that they do not have now, and will never have. In that sense, we will always emerge victorious, even if they place 100 warships off the coast of Nicaragua. [Applause]

CSO: 3010/2217

CLANDESTINE RADIO REPORTS ARMY DESERTIONS

PA212205 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT
21 Aug 82

[Text] Lieutenants (Roberto) and (Aparicio Guillen Herrera) have deserted the Sandinist People's Army [EPS], asking the Costa Rican Government for asylum. The deserters, using a military vehicle, escaped detection at the Penas Blancas border post. The two lieutenants said that the treasonous regime's abuse of power and its crimes against and torture of the people are the basic reason for their patriotic decision.

As on similar occasions, the EPS lieutenants denounced the presence of Cuban and Soviet troops in Nicaragua, characterizing them as virtual dictators in the army. The officers said that no order is given without the supervision of the so-called Cuban military advisers, who go so far as to abuse Nicaraguan soldiers and to instill hatred of our people in them.

They stated that the treasonous regime has launched a campaign in the EPS' rank and file, instructing the soldiers to be merciless toward our people in defending the interests of the gang of traitors.

The military vehicle in which the lieutenants arrived contained heavy caliber weapons, which the Costa Rican Government returned to the military men on the southeastern border who serve the treasonous regime.

Cases such as this are frequent; however, many deserters have been arrested and killed by foreign soldiers who are on guard at the border. Nicaragua itself has honest military men who, in response to an appeal from Commander Eden Pastora, will not fire on their own people. Commander Pastora patriotically asked honest EPS soldiers and policemen not to shoot at their fellow countrymen.

In response to this call from Commander Pastora, the treasonous regime has issued orders that our people may be killed under any circumstances. However, it is a striking fact that the Masaya policemen chose not to shoot at the people of Monimbo when they angrily and justifiably protested totalitarian actions committed by the treasonous regime and its gang.

Lieutenants (Roberto) and (Aparicio Guillen Herrera) are examples of honest soldiers who chose to leave Nicaragua rather than to shoot the people.

CSO: 3010/2217

COMMENTARY NOTES U.S. CHARGES OF MIG'S

PA220034 Managua International Service in Spanish 0220 GMT 21 Aug 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The U.S. newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST has reported the existence of new U.S. Government plans of aggression against Nicaragua in the face of the alleged presence of Soviet MIG airplanes in our country. This is a new excuse to justify the aggressive campaign against the Sandinist people's revolution.

The very idea of a plan of aggression reveals the imperialist mentality of its planners. Nicaragua does not have the right to arm itself without U.S. consent; the fact that Soviet armament arrives in our country is sufficient justification for an attack. Accusations are made up and, if necessary, evidence is fabricated: There are Soviet tanks in Nicaragua, there are MIG-17's with a red star, ad infinitum.

In order to seem objective, a State Department spokesman does not say that there are MIGs in Nicaragua at this time, but that they will arrive soon and that he cannot specify the date. Curiously, on that same day the spokesman's information is confirmed 2,000 km away, but with a small mistake in the farce's implementation. Although they should have waited a few days, reports are issued indicating that Honduran soldiers have already seen MIG's over their territory and that they even fired on them with anti-aircraft weapons in the area of El Triunfo, 200 km south of Tegucigalpa.

The distortions and tales made up by imperialism's publicity machinery are grotesque and laughable. However, the objectives concealed by such maneuvers are quite serious. Grave dangers are hovering over Central America as a result of the White House's aggressive policy. This situation, which is intensified by the growing militarization of reactionary regimes in the area, has caused deep concern among U.S. legislative circles.

Claiborne Pell, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has stressed that the Reagan administration should not increase its military interference in Honduras. Also referring to Honduras, Congressman Tom Harkin said: A country that has a desperate economic situation and that needs economic aid is receiving military aid and advisers instead.

Such statements show that opposition to the Reagan administration's policy toward Central America has increased in the United States. Central America is currently undergoing an unprecedentedly tense situation, including threats of a regional war. The international reactionaries' spokesmen indicate that the region is the victim of a foreign attack and that the tension is the result of communist penetration of the subcontinent. In a certain way, this view is correct. Central America is the victim of a foreign attack; however, the party to blame is the same one that has been to blame for the last 200 years; U.S. imperialism.

CSO: 3010/2218

CLANDESTINE RADIO REPORTS ATTACK ON BISHOP

PA211953 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT
21 Aug 82

[Text] Last night the mobs again committed criminal and immoral actions, this time at Las Brisas neighborhood when Msgr Miguel Obando Y Bravo, Father Bismarck Carvallo and other priests were holding a mass of atonement for the profanity committed against priest Carvallo. At the conclusion of the mass, the mob arrived and unrestrainedly beat many persons, including Msgr Miguel Obando Y Bravo.

Our sources have revealed that Monsignor Obando's car was damaged and that some persons had to receive attention from local doctors following the beatings they received from the mob, which finally had to flee in view of the anger and rejection shown by the people of Las Brisas over the attack.

Early in the afternoon, approximately 100 persons from Managua neighborhoods gathered in the Interior Ministry, where they were given instructions by the acting deputy minister of the treasonous regime on the vandalic actions they were to carry out in Las Brisas. This demonstrates that the mobs are encouraged by the treasonous regime and that the pictures and captions about an angry people defending their revolutionary interests carried in the daily paper of THE REPRESSION are also phony.

While the criminal activities at Las Brisas were taking place, a person who apparently had links with the group involved in these activities said that they had met in the afternoon in the Interior Ministry and that it was the acting deputy minister who, speaking on behalf of the treasonous regime, told them to be violent and to hit the enemy harder.

The instructions given by the member of the treasonous regime and the criminal actions committed by the mobs are in contrast to a communique signed on Thursday by the nine. There, on behalf of an organization, they call for commonsense, dialogue, and careful thinking and cynically say they have nothing against religion.

The people are already familiar with this type of lie from the treasonous regime. We know that their peace communiques are followed by more violent actions against our people.

In the morning they spoke about peace in a communique and at night they sent their mob of criminals to destroy our people. There is no doubt that the peace to which the communique from the treasonous regime refers is the peace of the cemetery and the mountains of Nicaragua. This communique was published on Thursday in the daily of THE REPRESSION. Like Somoza, the nine members of the treasonous regime are turning Nicaragua into a huge cemetery.

CSO: 3010/2217

ANTI-SANDINIST YOUTH GROUP ORGANIZED

PA211444 Tegucigalpa Voz De Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 20 Aug 82

[Report by Guillermo Arias]

[Text] With great satisfaction we have received in this station correspondent's office in Choluteca a visit by three Nicaraguan youths, whose names we will not disclose so as not to cause them problems in the future. They are secondary school students in a school in Choluteca Department. These youths, whose ages range from 17 to 21 years, said that they had recently formed an organization to free their fatherland, Nicaragua, from the communist yoke. The name of their organization is the Nicaraguan Democratic Youth [Juventud Democratica Nicaraguense]. It is a political organization that includes young students, workers, peasants and professionals. Its existence and operations are based on the revolutionary spirit of the Nicaraguan Democratic Front [FDN]. Its essential goal is to liberate Nicaragua from the communist regime that seeks to promote hatred, atheism, theft and death in that country. They explained that their group will base its political action and struggle on the ideals of the FDN. All young exiles who have democratic ideals and all political organizations that support the liberation ideas of the FDN can participate in this organization, regardless of race, sex, creed or socioeconomic level.

They gave a general explanation of their objectives, describing the FSLN Government as demagogic, despotic, totalitarian and Marxist-Leninist. They said it creates hatred among Nicaraguan brothers and is leading the country toward socioeconomic ruin. The organization also believes that the FSLN has placed itself beside Cuba, and that on the instructions of Soviet imperialism the regime has established a number of repressive institutions, thus violating the statute of the rights and guarantees of the Nicaraguans and bringing about a series of evils and repressive and terrorist attacks. Here is the first communique of the Nicaraguan Democratic Youth, which they have issued to this station:

Communique No 1: Tyrough this communique we make ourselves known and say we are present in the anticommunist struggle. We also support the Central American governments' struggle against terrorism.

The Nicaraguan Democratic Youth are always ready to combat and oust Marxism from Nicaragua and Central America, where they only want to sow hatred among the Central American brothers and deprive us of our homes so that they will become the property of the totalitarian state.

At this time when our fatherland is experiencing the most difficult moments in Central American history, with the regime sowing chaos and trampling our Central American lands on the orders of Russia and Cuba, we take advantage of this means to guide our Nicaraguan people. The Nicaraguan Democratic Youth reiterate their unwavering support for their vanguard, the FDN, in its military and political struggle against atheistic communism. We want the support of all freedom- and peace-loving peoples of the world so that we can join together to wipe out the leprosy affecting our people. We know that the only cure for it is a Central American alliance to crush international terrorism.

We also want to let the Nicaraguan people know that they are not alone, that inside and outside our fatherland we are working to free them from the Soviet yoke. The nine tentacles of the Russian octopus should know that they will not last much longer, because the Nicaraguan people are a fighting people who love democracy and their Catholic traditions. Our ideals do not permit us to remain indifferent or present ourselves with two masks at the same time to our people. [As heard]

God in our hearts, an ideal in our minds and a rifle in our hands will be enough to win. The Nicaraguan Democratic Youth recall the martyrs of democracy and freedom such as Francisco Morazan, Jose Cecilio Del Valle and (Leonisio Herrera), who as good Central Americans gave their lives so that Central America would remain free and [words indistinct] to defend our most sacred values of the fatherland, which they want to replace with the most infamous Marxist scourges of the Russian imperialists. In the anticommunist struggle we say present. [Words indistinct] we want Central Americans, not Russians or Cubans.

The communique is followed by a signature, but we obviously will not read it so as not to cause problems in the future for the Nicaraguan Democratic Youth, who have organized in Choluteca Department.

CSO: 3010/2217

BAYARDO ARCE SWEARS IN FOURTH REGION CDR

PA241646 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Aug 82

[Text] The Regional Directive Committee [CDR] of the fourth region was sworn in yesterday. About 800 delegates from mass organizations attended the ceremony. Mothers of heroes and martyrs also attended. The ceremony was held at the Hinda Theater in Granada, which will be the headquarters of the CDR in this region, which comprises the departments of Granada, Masaya, Rivas and Carazo.

Bayardo Arce Castano, commander of the revolution and coordinator of the Political Committee of the FSLN, was present at the ceremony. He said that regionalization is of great importance to the development of the revolutionary process. He said that regionalization is regarded as a unified work activity on the battlefield.

He said that the fourth region comprises 4,700 square km and has 480,000 inhabitants. It represents 11 percent of national production, 30 percent of small and medium industries and 90 percent of production for domestic consumption.

Bayardo Arce swore in the members of the CDR. Monica Baltodano, guerrilla commander and GDR coordinating secretary, asked those present to fulfill the duties assigned to them by the revolutionary process.

The fourth region CDR was sworn in as follows: (Federico Lopez), political secretary; (Jose David Silva), organizational secretary; Commander Ramon Cabrales, delegate from the government junta; (Eva Maria Teller), secretary of propaganda and political education; and (Mireya Vigil), (Ricardo Cruz) and (Gabriel Moncada).

CSO: 3010/2218

COMMITTEE NAMED TO COORDINATE FAO CONFERENCE

PA210055 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Aug 82

[Text] Some 250 visitors, among them government officials, diplomats, professionals and experts of 30 countries, will be in Managua from 30 August to 10 September to attend FAO's 17th conference for Latin America. The new conventions center at the Cesar Augusto Silva recreational center will be inaugurated for this important conference. However, the opening meeting will take place at the Ruben Dario Theater on 6 September. The technical committees of the FAO conference will meet prior to this date to discuss and draft an agenda which will include such subjects as experiences and problems of agricultural development, with special attention on forestal resources; livestock production; animal husbandry; livestock marketing programs; the FAO's regional programs and international agricultural studies; agrarian reform; agricultural products trading programs; fisheries development programs and the impact of nutritional programs on city and rural sectors.

Edward Sauma, the FAO director, will be at the conference's opening and will participate in the debates.

The FAO's 17th conference will be one of 1982's big events in Nicaragua.

The junta of the government of national reconstruction yesterday appointed a national committee in charge of the conference, headed by Commander Jaime Wheelock Roman, agricultural development and agrarian reform minister. Other members are Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto; Rodrigo Reyes, secretary of the junta of the government of national reconstruction; Jose Leon Talavera of the FSLN International Relations Department; and the minister of tourism, industries and of the international reconstruction fund.

The fact that Nicaragua was chosen to be host of FAO's conference for Latin America, despite its problems with the imperialist aggression threats, proves the esteem in which the Nicaraguan people and government are held by a majority of countries and those country's recognition of the efforts to advance the revolutionary process.

Rodrigo Reyes said that special efforts for peace and development are being made by the government for the benefit of low-income sectors and the country's economic progress.

CSO: 3010/2218

BRIEFS

SOLDIERS, CIVILIANS FLEE--Tegucigalpa, 21 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Some 160 Nicaraguan soldiers and civilians took refuge in Honduras on Friday, alleging that they could no longer tolerate "the Sandinist dictatorship" that exists in Nicaragua. The Nicaraguans arrived in the town of Las Trojes, Paraiso Department, eastern Honduras on the border with Nicaragua. The inhabitants of Las Trojes said that the presence of the refugees causes some problems because they are not accorded refugee status until a certain period of time has elapsed. In the meantime, they have to be housed and fed in private homes. [Text] [PA211927 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1549 GMT 21 Aug 82]

YOUTHS MEET CUBAN STUDENTS--The 19 July Sandinist youth movement and the National Union of University Students of Nicaragua, UNEUN, met yesterday with an internationalist group of Cuban medical students who completed their training in Nicaragua. The meeting was held at the auditorium of Leon's health training complex. Companeros Carlos Carrion, the Sandinist youth coordinator, presided over the ceremony. Eugenio Farias, UNEUN president; Raimundo Espinosa, deputy chief of Education, Culture and Science Department and member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and representatives of the Union of Young Communists National Committee of Cuba, were also present. UNEUN President Farias, one of the speakers at the meeting, praised the unconditional and internationalist solidarity of the Cuban people and government toward Nicaragua in the difficult moments our country has been through in 3 years of revolution. Farias said that the graduation of 106 Cuban medical students in our country is another demonstration of the friendly, fraternal and solid relations that exist between our countries whose common enemy is imperialism. [Text] [PA210447 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Aug 82]

SYRIAN MESSAGE--Your Excellency Mr Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of the State Council of the Republic of Nicaragua: The Syrian people and their representatives as well as nationalist and progressive Arabs have greatly appreciated and received with great pleasure your government's decision to break relations with Israel. This decision is a confirmation that the Nicaraguan revolution is aware of the danger that Israel's aggressive policies represent for security in our region and for world peace. Israel is right now the most dangerous terrorist force. It contributes to international tension and participates in aggressions against the security and independence of the Arab countries. It has used explosives of all types on the cities of Lebanon, more explosives than used by Nazi Germany

against Great Britain during World War II. Your decision, your excellency, shows that the aggressive policy of the United States and Israel will undoubtedly end in total failure, and that victory is on the side of the people and their just cause. We reiterate our appreciation and our desire for friendly relations between our parliaments. [No signature read]
[Text] [Letter sent by (Muhammad al-Seado), chairman of the People's Council of the Syrian Arab Republic, to Commander of the revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of the Nicaraguan State Council; no date given--read by announcer] [PA211940 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 20 Aug 82]

DELEGATION TO PARLIAMENTARY MEETING--A State Council delegation will participate in Bogota, Colombia, in the 10th regular assembly of the Latin American Parliament on 22 August. The delegation includes Dr Mariano Fiallos Oyanguren, secretary of the Colegislativa Organization; Angela Rosa Acevedo, secretary of the Foreign Affairs Committee; and Dr (Rodolfo Pena), legal adviser of the Nicaraguan Parliament. Nicaragua will participate at the meeting as an observer and will take advantage of the opportunity to apply for membership in the Latin American Parliament. [Text] [PA202120 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 20 Aug 82]

CSO: 3010/2217

INTERVIEW WITH VICE PRESIDENT JORGE ILLUECA

PA240025 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 22 Aug 82 p 1-B

[By Eva Montilla de Kinhead]

[Excerpts] Dr Jorge Enrique Illueca Sibauste made an exclusive statement regarding his nationwide political participation and his international image.

It was a good occasion to learn in greater detail about the political personality of Dr Illueca, who from his teenage years became known for his nationalistic and Latin Americanist struggles in general

New Responsibility

Regarding the importance of the new responsibility he has assumed, Dr Illueca said that "neither the presidency nor the vice presidency were part of my plans, even though whenever I became active in politics, this possibility was logically mentioned.

He added that back in the days when he was active, that was any politician's aspiration. He said, however, that "had I been after it [the presidency or vice presidency] I would not have reached it. Even so, when President de la Espriella chose me, as minister, to take over the vice presidency until the people's power held an election, I went out seeking votes all over the country."

His Views

As a militant in the National Patriotic Front, Dr Illueca opposed the military-men's administration, so we asked him why he is participating in the present government, whose origins date back to the 1968 revolution. [passage omitted]

Until 1968, the former national police, which later became the national guard, was a repressive body alienated from the people's aspirations and with a tinge of mercenariness resulting from the presence of foreign technicians and advisers.

"The young officers," he stressed, "who set in motion the 1968 revolutionary process, changed the institution's structure and purposes 180 degrees. Under

"Omar Torrijos Herrera's leadership their action was crucial in giving new and decisive impulse to the new Panamanian generations' very vehement and just demands, which stemmed from the heroic deed of 9 January 1964."

Raised Image

Further on, Dr Illueca said that "historically, the national guard raised its image to the level of the people's aspirations to restore our territorial integrity and put an end to the canal enclave, since Panama should exercise its sovereignty over the entire national territory, including the former Canal Zone." [passage omitted]

To give a precise answer to our question, he said: "Thus in 1972, when I was appointed spokesman of the national government to explain the state of the negotiations for the new Canal treaty to the Panamanian people and the general public I publicly answered that question. I said then that the national guard was no longer an institution at the service of interests alien to our nationality and had become an institution that vibrated with the fatherland's aspirations."

As complement to this explanation, he said that "I have advocated disarmament and continue to advocate the peaceful solution of controversies, but after the bloody crisis in Latin America's south Atlantic, during which a colonialist power--England--dispatched from its coasts, located 8,000 miles away, a war fleet to shed the precious blood of the Argentine people, who were making legitimate sovereignty claims over the Malvinas, since then, my opinion on disarmament has changed. I think that the Latin American nations must have their own military forces, with enough technological capacity to reject any act of aggression against their territorial integrity and sovereign rights."

He Is Nationalist

Regarding his beliefs, he said emphatically: "Basically, I am a nationalist." He also stressed that "every politician must adjust to his country's realities. Panama is an eminently capitalist nation, even though its economy is very precarious. In addition, due to its geographical position, it is a center of international communications."

He added that "the very continuous and efficient functioning of the Panama Canal, which all Panamanians desire, has very justly led us to declare the interoceanic waterway's permanent neutrality. This is beneficial to the people also, since in this manner reprisals are avoided in case of conflict."

In the same light he said that the regime's neutrality and the interests of Panamanians in economic, social and political development tied to their realities, prompt each good politician to be basically nationalist, "as I aspire to be," without falling into extremes of either the left or the right, "but instead, to have Panama's national interest over all."

"We can say," he added, "that the fact that Panama is attached to the ideals of the amphictyonic congress of 1826, to the Bolívarian doctrine of Latin American integration, is decisive in Panama's policy of friendship and co-operation with its sister nations of Latin America. They can count on Panama's doors to always be open so they can meet on our territory without exception, as was the case in 1975, when SELA was established in our capital through an instrument called the Agreement of Panama, in honor of our country."

He Is Not a Communist

Expanding on his ideology when we referred to rumors in the community identifying him with communism, the vice president said: "With regard to my political beliefs, I repeat that I am a nationalist; my public life shows that I am not in favor of extremism; and I have always sought harmonious solutions through agreement or understanding favorable to the good relations between capital and labor, on behalf of progress and national development."

"The interests of the two sectors," he added, "deserve my respect and should be dealt with in such a way that they both help bring honor to the republic. Panama has the conditions for accelerated social and economic development, with the active and dynamic participation of rural, commercial and industrial sectors. I will do my best to cooperate with President de la Espriella and his government to promote prosperity in all sectors of the country."

He stated: "I am not a communist, but neither am I, as President Ricardo de la Espriella said, a hunter of witches. A statement that was not well received by some fellow citizens, whose opinions we also respect even if we do not agree with them. To me the right of every Panamanian to have the religious creed and political ideology he freely chooses, should not and cannot be infringed. This is a right granted by the constitution."

In this respect he added that "for defending the constitution as a deputy to the national assembly, I was wounded in 1951 in 5 May Square. My blood is testimony to my conduct." [passage omitted]

There Is Compatibility

Is there compatibility between your new functions and Panama's aspirations for your candidacy as president of the 38th UN General Assembly? "The election for president of the 1983 UN General Assembly which normally takes 3 months, is indeed compatible, and in this respect President Ricardo de la Espriella has already authorized the foreign ministry to reiterate the Panamanian aspiration, which acting Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera did a couple of days ago." [passage omitted]

CSO: 3010/2233

EDITORIAL URGES OPPOSITION PAPERS TO COOPERATE

PA240435 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 23 Aug 82 p 6

[Editorial: "Mockery or Stubbornness"]

[Text] The national guard, through its commander-in-chief, Brig Gen Ruben Dario Paredes, has set on the national table the cards that can put the country within reach of full democracy and therefore of the stability marking that peace which is so precious to Panamanians.

Forsaking all party interests and extending a friendly hand to its adversaries, the national guard, with its 10,000 uniformed fellow countrymen, has clearly explained that it strives to achieve progress in Panama. To achieve this, our fellow countrymen's cooperation without discrimination is necessary.

All points expressed in his news conference held at the commander's headquarters are being fulfilled. Even better, this has been done with the approval of a majority of citizens.

Notwithstanding this, one detail is worth comment: the call to the social communications media for an end in the future to anonymous columns and other types of immoral practices that cloud national life.

As regards this enterprise's newspapers, we must say that this commitment is being fulfilled in earnest. The citizens are the best witnesses to this. But if we are to be honest, we must say here that several opposition newspapers have ignored General Paredes' suggestions. As an example, we will mention the absence of signatures in several articles.

If we want to live like real brothers, the opposition must cooperate. But the opposition should never believe there is any fear on the part of the process. Beware of a mistake!

CSO: 3010/2233

ILLUECA THANKS McAULIFFE FOR RETURNED HOUSES

PA242002 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 24 Aug 82 pp 1, 6-B

[Letter from Panamanian Vice President Dr Illueca to Panama Canal Commission Administrator Dennis McAuliffe, dated 23 August 1982]

[Text] Dear Mr McAuliffe:

I wish to express to you my satisfaction over our meeting today on the occasion of the ceremony for the physical transfer of the 168 housing units located in Coco Solo and Mindi.

I believe it timely to give public acknowledgment to the Panama Canal Commission for the optimal state and condition of preservation and maintenance that we observed in the transferred houses, which are evidence of the Panama Canal administration's responsibility and efficiency in the discharge of its important responsibilities. I also wish to thank you for the commitment made by the Panama Canal Commission and expressed through you that it will repair any damage or flaw that may appear in these houses within the next 15 days.

This occasion is also suitable to reiterate to you my personal esteem and my most distinguished consideration.

[Signed] Dr Jorge E. Illueca

CSO: 3010/2233

EFFORTS MADE TO LOCATE ABSENTEE LANDOWNERS

Amsterdam ELSEVIERS MAGAZINE in Dutch 24 Jul 82 pp 13-14

[Article by Sig. W. Wolf: "Suriname Hunts Plantation Owners"]

[Text] Suriname's military rulers declared open season on owners of abandoned plantations. The government in Paramaribo wants to clear up ownership rights which, as the result of a chaotic administration, are difficult to establish. Many owners live in the Netherlands. We are also dealing with a number of speculators who managed to acquire large parcels of Suriname real estate for a mere song and dance.

The remnants of erstwhile prosperous plantations, overgrown by tropical vegetation, can be found on the banks of hardly navigable little streams. Ramshackle wooden houses on high stilts with colossal rooms are still testifying to very profitable years at the end of the past century.

Plantation owners lived there in great luxury. However, nothing was ever done about improving or expanding the enterprises. The profits were transferred to banks in the Netherlands, or used to finance a licentious existence. The names accurately reflect the hopes, expectations, and problems of the owners: "The Golden Fortune," "The Gold Mine," "Rest and Work." We also notice that there was no lack of humor, as in: "Love Corner," Jacob's Struggle," "End of Rest."

After 100 years these names still evoke memories of the golden era of plantations. But they also let us know that bad times were coming. First there was the 1773 crisis on the Amsterdam Stock Exchange, and later the manufacture in Europe of sugar from sugar beets which did the plantations in. Most of the owners gave up and returned to the mother country. Behind them they left a trail of confusing estates and ownership rights which, as the result of poor registration, hardly make any sense today. To complete the administrative chaos small farmers settled on the deserted fertile fields; they remained for generations and it did not enter into their heads to pay rent. Indeed they did not even know whom to pay. As long as the owners did not show up they remained there undisturbed. Repeated attempts to clear up ownership rights remained without result. Applicants presenting themselves as possible owners could not substantiate their claims. One-half of the Surinamese population believes therefore that they own the land on which

the other half lives. Families have violent disputes about plantation ownership rights. Their fights for imagined ownership rights often assume a provocative character, because claims are often made by offspring of the original owners born out of wedlock. Cousins hardly aware of each other's existence get acquainted for the first time in court. Carelessness or malicious designs of the former owners? It is a fact that upon their return to the mother country plantation owners were vitally interested in keeping their family and the government in the dark about the expensive real estate still in their possession or the parts of it given away to local offspring.

Heirs of the owners can not only be found in the Netherlands but many are also in the United States, and Belgium. It now appears that the large abandoned plantation "Spieringshoek" is in the hands of the Belgian family Vas Nunes and the plantation "Rest and Labor," where some 500 peasants have their own parcels, appears to be the property of a retired physician in Meppel. The confused situation caused the Suriname Government to take control. It wants clear information on the ownership rights to allow the plantations to prosper once again. There is a great shortage of good agricultural land in Suriname and the government is certain that if it was possible 100 years ago to reap rich harvests with primitive means and small investments, it should now be economically feasible to cultivate sugar cane, citrus fruits, bananas and cotton with modern means of production. The military rulers in Paramaribo are frustrated in their desire to solve the problem because they do not know who the real owners of the abandoned plantations are. Research of messy mortgage registers and archives produced very little. They are now trying to track the owners down through advertisements in Dutch newspapers. A recent summons addressed to the owners of the plantations Ornamibo and Tampoca has already had results. The possible owner of Tampoca, a resident of Rotterdam, reported by telephone. Whether he is really the rightful owner will have to be decided after an inspection of his ownership papers.

Surinamese attempts to find the owners of plantations are part of a recently initiated policy to clear up landownership rights in the country. It is an open secret that successive governments shamelessly issued long term leases of government lands to political friends and family. If a person wanted a certain parcel of real estate all he had to do was engage a surveyor to see to it that the proper maps were sent via friendly political relations to the correct section of the departments entrusted with the issuance and registration of titles. In this manner dozens of ministers, civil servants, and private persons acquired hundreds of acres of land. Nobody cared or could do a thing about it, not even when only after a short time these lands were sold for considerable sums. Persons who did not need the cash held on to their land hoping for better times and therefore for better prices.

Around Paramaribo thousands of acres lie fallow. This really aggravates the military rulers. The owners have often gone back to the Netherlands and care little about their property. But their status of large landowner is drawing to an end. All owners in foreign countries have been summoned by the military rulers to report. Somebody who remains unable to explain that he legitimately obtained his long term lease will lose it. Suriname's

consul M. A. Blokland explains the measure as follows: "This way we want to prevent foreigners' holding onto their property while hundreds of residents are yearning for a piece of land. Many landowners abroad are neglecting their property. It is antisocial to let their land remain unproductive. If the property was legitimately acquired the owners will be compensated by the government.

The drive to locate owners of large parcels of real estate has Surinamese in the Netherlands scared. They are apprehensive that their property will be expropriated. Blokland disavows such fears: "We will not expropriate indiscriminately. It would not serve any Surinamese interest. We hope that owners of small parcels of land will some day come back and help to develop the country. Our action is mainly directed at large landowners who want to speculate with their property. Indiscriminate land dealings will be a thing of the past."

Blokland emphasizes that properties of large companies with bauxite and agricultural concessions will be left alone. "Our measures aim at promoting an equitable distribution of a scarce commodity. While we were preparing an inventory of landownership in Suriname we came across gross illegalities. I do not believe that it will be held against us when we try to straighten these things out."

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END